



PATENT APPLICATION

1770X 24/02  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

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Dieter GENG, Ueli PFENNINGER, Philippe DE VRIENDT, Fabio GUERRINI

Appln. No.: 10/009,959

Group Art Unit: 1775

Filed: 12/12/01

For: WOODEN FLOOR

Attorney Docket No.: 3827.088

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APR 17 2002  
TC 1700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application which were cited by the Examiner in the corresponding German patent application and the Examiner of the International Patent Application. A copy of the German Search Report and the International Search Report is attached. Copies of the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are provided herewith.

German Search Report

1. German Patent No. DE 26 30 634 A1 (in German) OMHOLT, entitled "Holzfussbodensystem sowie Verfahren zu seiner Herstellung, published January 27, 1977.

2. German Patent No. 12 23 089 (in German) SIENER, entitled "Verfahren zur Herstellung von mit losungsmittelfreien Selbstklebern versehenen Fussbodenbeilagen" published August 18, 1966.
3. German Utility No. 297 02 871 U1 (in German) entitled "Diele fur Parkettboden" published May 15, 1997.

International Search Report

4. Great Britain Patent No. 1 558 408 entitled "Wood flooring System" published January 03, 1980.
5. Switzer Patent No. 331 526 (in German) SEYLAZ, entitled "Verfahren zum Aufleimen von Holzfussboden auf Betonunterlagen" published September 15, 1958

Publications

6. DIN 281 entitled "Parkettklebstoffe" published April 1991 of the German government.

In the search report conducted at the German Patent Office, Document 1 was cited as "Y" type document as being relevant to claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 12. Document 1 teaches a process for applying a parquet floor, comprising heating a solvent-free composition comprising 90 wt% paraffin wax and 10% polyisobutylene until fluid, followed by ejecting the composition through heated nozzles to the back side of the parquet tile. The relevancy of this document to the present invention is not understood.

In the search report conducted at the German Patent Office, Document 2 was cited as "Y" type document as being relevant to claim 1, and Document 3 was cited as "Y" type document as being relevant to claim 1 of the present invention if read in combination with another reference of the same category.

Documents 4 and 5 were cited as "A" type documents to show the state of the art over which the present invention improves.

Document 6 is merely the German Industrial Standards for adhesives for parquetry, as referred to at page 5 of the present patent application.

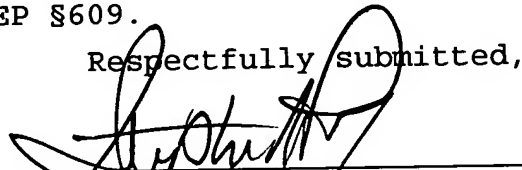
Applicant is not aware of any English language documents corresponding to the above-cited non-English documents.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date, or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits and, therefore, no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedated or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

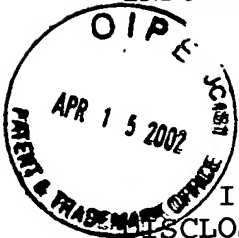
  
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U.S. PATENT APPLICATION  
SERIAL NO.: 10/009,959  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

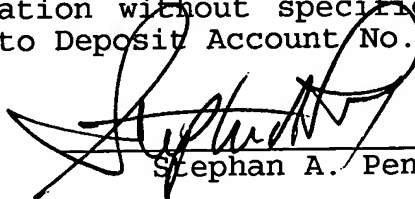
ATTY DOCK: 3827.088



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, Form PTO-1449 and five references for U.S. Application No. 10/009,959 filed December 12, 2001, was deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, addressed: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 10, 2002.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.

  
Stephan A. Pendorf